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NEWS RELEASE

For Media Release: October 21, 2003

MARKS NAMED "JURIST OF THE YEAR"

Judge Victoria S. Marks, a judge of the Circuit Court of the First Judicial Circuit, was selected by Chief Justice Ronald T.Y. Moon to receive the Hawai'i State Judiciary's first annual "Jurist of the Year" award. The award will be presented during a ceremony in the State Supreme Court courtroom on October 24, 2003 at 11:30 a.m. During the ceremony, Chief Justice Moon will also present 15 individual and group awards to employees who have made outstanding contributions to the state court system.

The Jurist of the Year award recognizes a full-time trial judge for exceptional judicial competence, evidenced by quality decision making, significant extra-judicial contributions to the administration of justice, and active participation in public service to the community. Nominations were submitted to the Chief Justice by persons with first-hand knowledge of the nominees' accomplishments.

Judge Marks joined the Judiciary in 1988 when she was appointed per diem judge of the Family Court of the First Judicial Circuit. She became a full-time judge of the Family Court in 1991, and was elevated to the Circuit Court in 1994. She previously served as the Criminal Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Judicial Circuit from 1995 to 1999.

During her tenure on the Circuit Court, Judge Marks served as chair or member on 23 committees. She is currently the chair of the Supreme Court Standing Committee on the Rules of Evidence, and serves on a number of committees including the Judicial Education Committee, Executive Committee on Court Technology and Information Management, Single-Tier Trial Court Committee, Bench/Bar Committee, and Attorney and Judges Assistance Program Board of Directors.

An active member of the community, Judge Marks has participated as a featured speaker, panel member, guest judge, facilitator, and trainer at over 100 events. She has been a featured speaker at Mililani Mauka Elementary School, Hickam Elementary, `Iolani School, Mililani Lyons Club, and the Hawai'i Chamber of Commerce. She has served as a guest judge for the Hawai'i High School Mock Trial Competitions, the Susan B. McKay Moot Court Competitions, the Hispanic National Bar Association's Moot Court Competitions, and the Jessup International Moot Court Competitions, as well as presided over mock trial exercises for Trial Practice classes at the University of Hawai'i Richardson School of Law. She has also participated as a guest lecturer at the University of Hawaii's School of Public Health, School of Social Work, Richardson School of Law, and Brigham Young University's School of Education.

"I am pleased to present the Judiciary's first "Jurist of the Year" award to the Honorable Victoria Marks in recognition of her untiring service to the people of Hawai'i -- both in and out of the courtroom," said Chief Justice Moon. "Judge Marks truly exemplifies the best of the Judiciary."

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